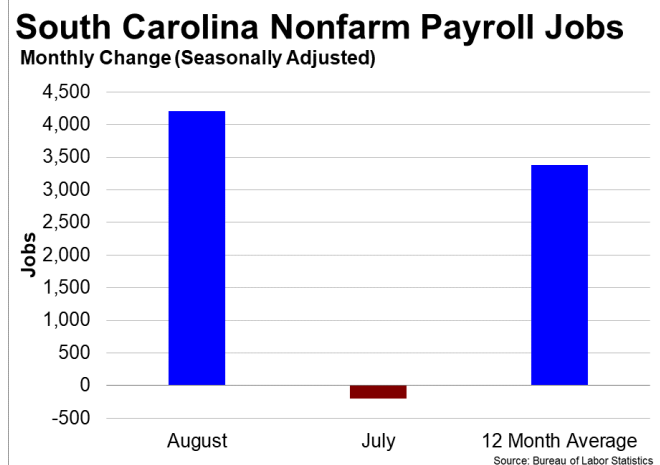
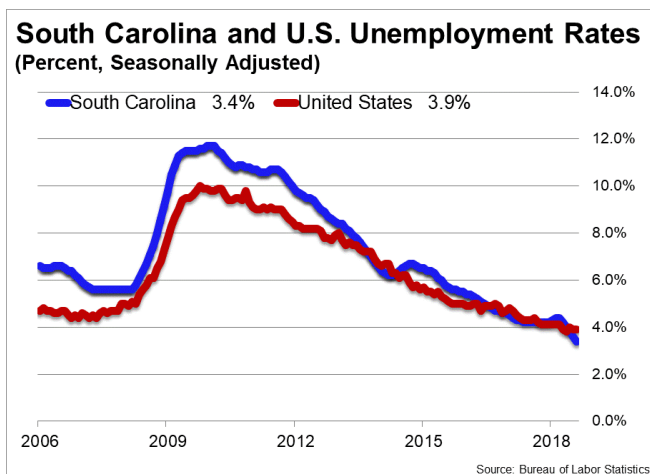




September 21, 2018

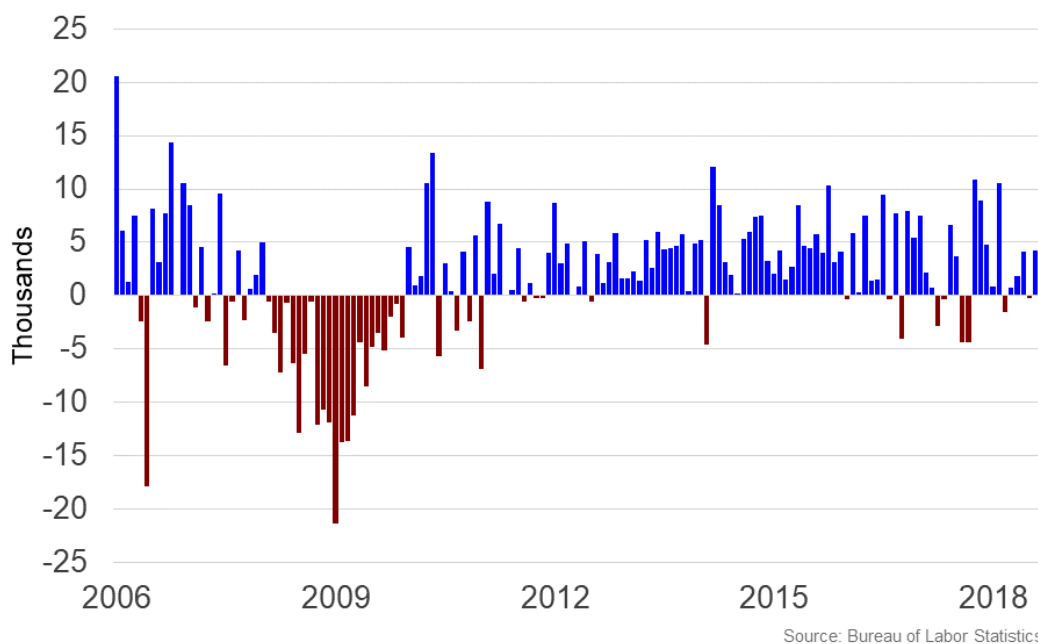
### Summary

- **South Carolina added 4,200 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 3.4 percent in August** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, South Carolina added 40,600 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.8 percentage point from 4.2 percent.
- **In August, South Carolina's private sector added 3,700 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 38,100 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed South Carolinians fell by 3,923 in August**, and over the past year 9,328 South Carolinians found jobs.
- South Carolina's **labor force participation rate decreased to 57.4 percent** from 57.6 percent in August. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 1.1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.9 percent in August**. State employment and unemployment data for September is scheduled for release on October 19, 2018. The national employment situation report for September will be released on Friday, October 5, 2018.



## South Carolina Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



### South Carolina Payroll Employment

South Carolina added 4,200 jobs, or 0.20 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, South Carolina lost 200 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in South Carolina increased by 40,600, or 1.94 percent. South Carolina nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

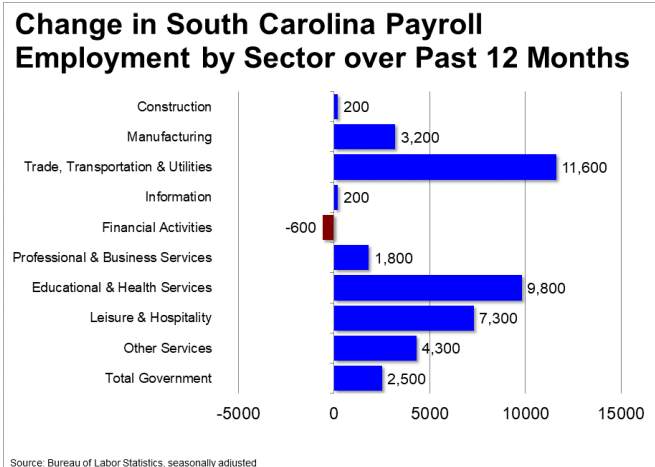
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 201,000 jobs in August, or 0.13 percent. Over the 12-month period ending August 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,330,000 jobs, or 1.59 percent. South Carolina ranks 22nd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During August, South Carolina's private-sector added 3,700 jobs, or 0.21 percent. The private-sector in South Carolina lost 700 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in South Carolina increased by 38,100, or 2.21 percent. South Carolina private-sector payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 204,000 jobs in August, or 0.16 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,329,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.87 percent. South Carolina ranks 25th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during August were Professional & Business Services (+4,000) and Other Services (+1,100). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Manufacturing (-1,500) and Leisure & Hospitality (-1,000).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+11,600) and Educational & Health Services (+9,800). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Financial Activities (-600) and Information (+200).



## South Carolina Labor Force Statistics

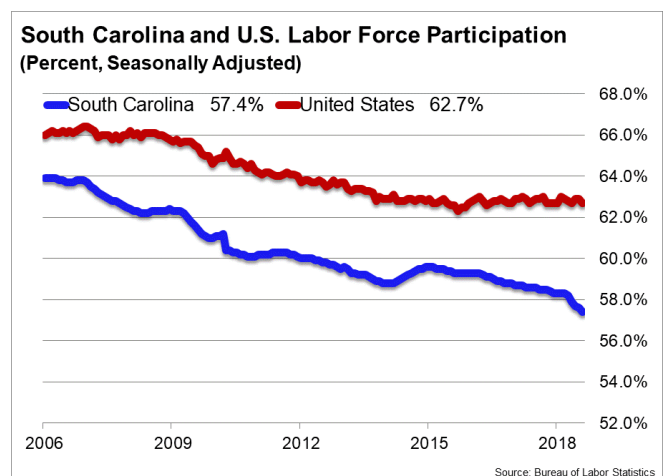
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in South Carolina declined to 57.4 percent in August from 57.6 percent the prior month. At 57.4 percent, South Carolina has one of the five lowest labor force participation rates in the nation. The labor force participation rate in South Carolina is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina was 62.4 percent in December 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina occurred in July 1993 when the labor force participation rate hit 67.0 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 57.4 percent in August 2018. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina. The national labor force participation rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 62.7 percent in August 2018, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the South Carolina civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at 55.5 percent in August. Among the 50 states



and the District of Columbia, 45 have higher employment-to-population ratios than South Carolina. The employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina is 0.6 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina was 57.6 percent in September 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina occurred in May 1990 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 63.8 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 53.5 percent in April 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in May 2010 when the employment-to-population ratio was 53.5 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.2 percentage point to 60.3 percent in August. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

